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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Members from the Acadiana Legislative Delegation are holding the LSU Board of Supervisors to certain criteria.

Several members from the Acadiana Delegation are holding the LSU Board of Supervisors to certain criteria that has been discussed in the last few days.

Although dialogue is still ongoing, members of the Acadiana Delegation are stating that some progress has been made to ease some of the cuts initially proposed to UMC in Lafayette. "The plan is fluid and will not be executed for 30 days. The area legislators both on the House and Senate side are working diligently to protect those vital services that are so important to the Acadiana area," stated Senator Fred Mills (R)-Parks.

Of those items that the Acadiana Delegation is holding the LSU Board of Supervisors to commit on is:

- Preserving the residency program. (Approximately 90% of those doctors stay within a 70-mile radius of Lafayette upon completion of the residency program.
- Preserving three of the vital programs current at UMC, those being:
 - (1) Ear, Nose and Throat
 - (2) Orthopedics
 - (3) Ophthalmology
- Establish a line of communication to each individual patient that will be affected.
- Continue to have open communication and dialogue with area legislators.
- Retain Dr. Howes

The Delegation stated that it is looking into a legislative solution.

"The Delegation will continue to fight for our constituents who use this facility and those that rely upon this facility for their employment. This facility is crucial to the entire Acadiana area." stated Senator Jonathan Perry (R) - Kaplan, Chairman of the Acadiana Delegation.